AFRICAN ASSOCIATION Ltd. LIVERPOOL. Rosemary Smith.

A0230 AA/LD 8,8/6,7 44mm is given in the Tomkins Cat. as African Association Ltd. Liverpool. Stamps known are GV Photo.

I have a cover dated 09-09-13 with this perfin on a 2½d GV sent to Aix-Les-Bains. However, the printing on the envelope front is V.B. Company Limited, Royal Liver Building, Liverpool and the trade mark is shown as 5 cherries hanging from a branch with the word VIBICO on the branch.

Looking in the 'V Catalogue, V0185 V.B/&Co. 9,15/14,8,6 4½mm (III) is given as Vaughan Bros & Co., Liverpool.

Can anyone give any information about the African Association Ltd. Liverpool. For example: was it a group of companies trading with Africa? Also any information about the V.B. Company Limited, Royal Liver Building and the meaning of VIBICO? Again, is Vaughan Bros & Co. Liverpool the same firm as the V.B. Company Limited?